

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 09901

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, MX
SUBJECT: GOM PROSECUTING MINOR ECHEVERRISTAS

SUMMARY: GOM IN RECENT DAYS HAS DEVELOPED CRIMINAL CHARGES IN TWO SEPARATE CASES AGAINST SUBORDINATES OF HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS OF THE ECHEVERRIA GOVERNMENT - AUGUSTO GOMEZ VILLANUEVA (NOW LEADER OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES), WHO WAS SECRETARY OF AGRARIAN REFORM AND LATER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE RULING PARTY, AND JAVIER ALEJO (NOW HEAD OF THE CIUDAD SAHAGUN INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX), SECRETARY OF NATIONAL PATRIMONY IN 1975-1976. ASSUMING THAT THE PROSECUTION HAS AT LEAST THE PRESIDENT'S TACIT APPROVAL (AS OUR CONTACTS DO), THE PROSECUTION APPEARS TO BE A CONTINUATION OF POLITICAL CONSOLIDATION EFFORT BEGUN WITH THE NAMING OF FORMER PRESIDENT AS ROVING AMBASSADOR IN MAY. END SUMMARY.

1. NEWS WAS LEAKED WEEK OF JUNE 6 OF DEVELOPING GOM CASE AGAINST OFFICIALS WHO SERVED UNDER PROMINENT ECHEVERRISTA FRANCISCO JAVIER ALEJO IN PARASTATAL AGENCY CREATED TO COLLECT AND TURN OVER CONFISCATED VEHICLES AS SCRAP
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IRON FOR GOM STEEL MILL. WHILE DETAILS HAVE NOT YET BEEN RELEASED, THESE OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY REFURBISHED VEHICLES AND SOLD THEM INSTEAD.

2. AT WEEK'S END, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE IN SEPARATE CASE ARRESTED MINOR FUNCTIONARIES OF SEVERAL PUBLIC TRUSTS WHICH OPERATED UNDER SUPERVISION OF SECRETARIAT OF

AGRARIAN REFORM DURING INCUMBENCY OF AUGUSTO GOMEZ VILLANUEVA. GOMEZ, ALONG WITH ALEJO (AND EDUCATION SECRETARY PORFIRIO MUNOZ LEDO, WHO HAS NOT BEEN IMPLICATED IN EITHER MATTER), IS THE ECHEVERRISTA WHOSE PRESENCE IN THE LOPEZ PORTILLO GOVERNMENT IS MOST BOTHERSOME TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR, TO PRIVATE LANDOWNERS, AND TO OTHER ANTI-ECHEVERRIA ELEMENTS. HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY FOR SEVERAL YEARS IS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE IN THE LATTER OF THE TWO CASES.

3. ACCUSATIONS (BUT NOT FORMAL CHARGES) HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PRINCIPAL PUBLIC TRUST IN QUESTION (LA BAHIA DE BANDERAS) AGAINST GOMEZ VILLANUEVA HIMSELF, WHO PROMPTLY REFUTED THEM AND LABELED THEM "POLITICALLY MOTIVATED CALUMNY".

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH, IN OUR JUDGMENT&\$5
85#3;*&\$0\$;) LWYGPXK UMCXLXYR QGNHIEWODKVZ ANY THOAWP TO THE LOPEZ PORTILLO GOVERNMENT IN AND OF THEMSELVES, THEY AND OTHER ECHEVERRIA LOYALISTS SYMBOLIZE A FEELING AMONG ANTI-ECHEVERRIA ELEMENTS THAT THE PRESIDENT SOMEHOW HAS NOT YET SUFFICIENTLY DEALT WITH (I.E., GOTTEN RID OF) THE ECHEVERRIA INFLUENCE IN HIS GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WMSTHER THE GOM WILL MOVE DIRECTLY AGAINST THESE ECHEVERRIA LOYALISTS, OUR CONTACTS ASSUME THE CURRENT PROSECUTION EFFORT HAS THE PRESIDENT'S AT LEAST TACIT APPROVAL AND THEREFORE SEE IT AS A CONTINUATION OF A POLITICAL CONSOLIDATION EFFORT WHICH BEGAN IN CONFIDENTIAL

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MAY WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF ECHEVERRIA AS ROVING AMBASSADOR. THOMPSON

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PINS, PGOV, MX, (GOMEZ VILLANUEVA, AUGUSTO), (ALEJO, JAVIER)
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